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CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~COUNTRY RumaniaTOPIC Arms and Equipment of the Rumanian Armed Forces

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EVALUATION

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REFERENCES

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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Infantry Arms

1. The equipment of the Rumanian infantry with arms was completed in February 1950. Rumanian weapons were to be gradually replaced by Soviet materiel. All artillery battalions of the infantry regiment had been fully equipped with Soviet guns. About 40 percent of the materiel in other units was of Soviet origin. (1)
2. Deliveries from the U.S.S.R. included rifles with 10-round clips, light machine guns, mounted model Maxim heavy machine guns, model PPS submachine guns, 45-mm and 57-mm AT guns and short-barreled 76.2-mm infantry accompanying guns. (2)
3. Rumanian materiel of the infantry included model ZB 7.92-mm rifles constructed with permission of the Czechoslovakian Zbrojovska in Brno; model ZB 7.92-mm light machine guns with a 20-round magazine and model ZB 7.92-mm heavy machine guns with 150-round magazine which were also constructed with Czechoslovakian permission; model Oritz 9-mm submachine guns, also called P.A.U. or Pusca automata usoara, which are light automatic rifles with a short, thin and smooth barrel, a long wooden butt similar to the rifle butt, and long 30-round magazine feeding the gun from below manufactured in the Rumanian Cugir Arms Factory after the patent of Rumanian Captain Orita, (fnu); model Schmeisser 9-mm submachine guns with a 30-round magazine and a wooden or metallic telescoping butt, acquired from Germany during World War II; model Boretta 9-mm submachine guns with a 30-round magazine and a water jacket around the barrel, originating in Italy; 81.4-mm and 120-mm mortars manufactured in the Rumanian Recita Works; and Rumanian 60-mm mortars for mountain troops.

Artillery and AAA Weapons

4. The artillery equipment which was available was sufficient for the entire Rumanian Forces. It was estimated that 80 to 90 percent of the Rumanian artillery was equipped with Soviet materiel in early 1950. Of the Rumanian materiel especially the 100-mm and 150-mm Skoda howitzers were still used. No heavy AA guns were shown to

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group of officers inspecting the Rumanian AAA training center in Brasov (R 35/X 37). (3)

5. Deliveries from the U.S.S.R. included 76.2-mm field guns, 122-mm gun howitzers, 100-mm and 152-mm howitzers, 76.2-mm AT guns, 20-mm and 37-mm AA guns and 120-mm mortars. (4)
6. Rumanian weapons still in use with the Rumanian artillery included model Skoda 100-mm and 150-mm howitzers; French 75-mm mountain guns; model Skoda 100-mm mountain howitzers; German 105-mm guns which were to be turned in; 75-mm AT guns with a nearly vertical gun shield, a solid muzzle brake and a double recoil brake, capable of penetrating a 150-mm armor plate, manufactured in the Rumanian Mecita works after the patent of Captain (Engr) Burlacu, (fnu), and Colonel Nestorescu, (fnu); model Vickers 75-mm AA guns; and German and Soviet 88-mm AA guns.

Weapons of the Armored and Mechanized Forces

7. The armored and mechanized forces were equipped exclusively with Soviet materiel. According to Captain Mihai Jonescu, a Communist and trainee of the military academy, the materiel for four armored divisions and additional independent armored and motorized forces has been delivered by the U.S.S.R. (5)
8. Deliveries from the U.S.S.R. included T-34 tanks, 100-mm SP guns, 122-mm and 152-mm SP guns, referred to as "guns on self-propelled mounts", half-track and wheeled armored scout cars, full-track armored personnel carriers with two heavy machine guns and one 81.4-mm mortar, and half-track cross-country personnel carriers. (6)

Arms of Other Branches of Service

9. The Rumanian cavalry, signal, engineer and railroad troops had infantry weapons apart from their special equipment.

Motor Vehicles

10. Motor vehicles delivered from the U.S.S.R. included Pobeda command cars, ZIS prime movers for heavy artillery and AT guns, 3-ton ZIS trucks, command cars and Soviet Willys jeeps, mobile motor vehicle repair shops, ambulances, tank trucks, radio trucks, charging units, buses and trucks with a boxlike body for transportation of material.

Observation and Survey Equipment

11. Survey equipment furnished by the U.S.S.R. consisted of field glasses, compasses, periscopes, range-finders and special mapmounting boards for artillery use.

Other Data on Armament and Equipment

12. It was planned to replace all arms and equipment of Rumanian make by Soviet materiel. Prior to February 1950, however, the U.S.S.R. delivered only weapons which were already in use in World War II. No heavy tanks or rocket launchers were seen in the Rumanian Army. (7)
13. A general shortage of materiel was only observed with the Rumanian Air Force and Navy. (8)
14. The Rumanian units had been ordered not to spare ammunition for the training of troops.

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- (1) [] Comment. Available records indicated a considerably larger share of Soviet infantry weapons. However, the data by the deserter are considered correct as he served with the Rumanian army and had many opportunities for detailed observations.

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- (2) [] Comment. The Soviet model 1942 45-mm AT gun is considered obsolescent. It is no longer used by the Soviet Army. The infantry gun was probably the model 1943 76-mm gun.

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- (3) [] Comment. The information checks with available records. The re-equipment of the Rumanian artillery has been virtually completed.

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- (4) [] Comment. Howitzers of 100-mm caliber were not identified with the Soviet Armed Forces. The Soviet 107-mm gun of model 1940/M 60 has not been manufactured since 1943 or 1944. It seems very doubtful that the mentioned gun should have been the 100-mm AT gun of model 1944 because this most recent and heaviest type of a Soviet AT gun was probably not given to the Rumanians. The other guns mentioned were of known Soviet types.

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- (5) [] Comment. Only two armored divisions have so far been identified.

- (6) [] Comment. It is doubted that the SP guns which the deserter described as guns on self-propelled mounts should have been of the Soviet models SU 100, JSU-122 (SU 249) or JSU-152, since only armored vehicles of medium types, such as the T-34/85 model, have been observed in Rumania.

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- (7) [] Comment. The report indicates that, like the other satellite countries, Rumania also has not been furnished with new and modern Soviet materiel. Reports from Poland, Czechoslovakia and Hungary also stated that some of the materiel delivered by the Soviets had already been used in World War II.

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- (8) [] Comment. Source believed that the Rumanian arms factories were included in the Soviet armament program and also produced for the U.S.S.R., since they were directly controlled by Soviet offices.

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